

**SUPPORT FOR MAIL BALLOT ELECTIONS**

<p>It is the intent of the Montana Association of Counties to support efforts to adopt a mail ballot process for conducting elections.</p>
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**WHEREAS**, the State of Oregon has demonstrated that vote by mail (VBM) elections are secure, efficient and cost-effective; and

**WHEREAS**, two separate studies of Oregon's VBM election process concluded that VBM elections result in a more accurate count; and

**WHEREAS**, the costs of holding elections are increasing; and

**WHEREAS**, it is becoming increasingly difficult for local election officials to find election judges; and

**WHEREAS**, Montana's elections continue to be a "hybrid" system of multiple elections on election day (absentee balloting, precinct balloting and same day registration balloting); and,

**WHEREAS**, the current "hybrid" elections are more expensive and more difficult to administer than a VBM election.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Montana Association of Counties support efforts to adopt a state-wide system for vote by mail elections.

**SPONSOR:** DISTRICTS 10 & 11

**RECOMMENDATION:** Do Pass

**PRIORITY:** High

**REFERRED TO:** Resolutions Committee  
Clerk & Records Association

**ADOPTED:** Annual Conference, Hamilton, MT September 24, 2008